

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for refreshing an on-going electronic auction, comprising
2 the steps of:
3 determining that auction parameters have been changed; and
4 automatically refreshing a copy of the auction at a browser of an
5 auction participant.

6 2. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the determining step
7 comprises determining if an indicator has been set at the auction server
8 side to indicate that an auction parameter has changed.

9 3. The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the indicator
10 determining step comprises refreshing an updater object; and determining
11 if the value in the refreshed updater object indicates that an auction
12 parameter has changed.

13 4. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the determining step
14 comprises receiving a communication from the auction server side
15 indicating that an auction parameter has changed.

16 5. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the determining step
17 comprises the step of determining if the communication is from an
18 authorized party.

19 6. The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of
20 displaying a notice that web page content has been changed.

21 7. A method for conducting an electronic auction, comprising the
22 steps of:
23 during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction
24 with a changed auction parameter; and

creating an indication of an updated auction.

8. The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the creating an indication step comprises setting an update value to indicate a changed parameter.

9. The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the creating an indication step comprises sending a communication indicating an updated auction parameter to auction participants.

10. A method for conducting an electronic auction, comprising the steps of:

during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and

periodically refreshing an auction web page at a browser of an auction participant.

11. A program product containing machine readable programming code for causing a machine to perform the following method steps to refresh an on-going electronic auction:

determining that an auction parameter has been changed; and

automatically refreshing a copy of the auction at a browser of an auction participant.

12. The program product as defined in claim 11, wherein the code for the determining step comprises code for determining if an indicator has been set at the auction server side to indicate that an auction parameter has changed.

13. The program product as defined in claim 12, wherein the code for the indicator determining step comprises code for refreshing an updater

object; and determining if the value in the refreshed updater object indicates that an auction parameter has changed.

14. The program product as defined in claim 11, wherein the code for the determining step comprises code for receiving a communication from the auction server side indicating that an auction parameter has changed.

15. The program product as defined in claim 11, wherein the code for the determining step comprises code for determining if the communication is from an authorized party.

16. The program product as defined in claim 11, further comprising code for performing the step of displaying a notice that web page content has been changed.

17. A program product containing machine readable program code for causing a machine to perform the following steps to conduct an electronic auction:

 during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and
 creating an indication of an updated auction.

18. The program product as defined in claim 17, wherein the code for creating an indication step comprises code for setting an update value to indicate a changed parameter.

19. The program product as defined in claim 18, wherein the code for creating an indication comprises code for sending a communication indicating an updated auction parameter to auction participants.

20. A program product containing machine readable for causing a machine to perform the following method steps to conduct an electronic auction:

76 during an on-going electronic auction session, updating the auction
77 with a changed auction parameter; and
78 periodically refreshing an auction web page at a browser of an
79 auction participant.

80 21. A system for refreshing an on-going electronic auction, comprising:
81 a component for determining that an auction parameter has been
82 changed; and
83 a component for automatically refreshing a copy of the auction at a
84 browser of an auction participant.

85 22. A system for conducting an electronic auction, comprising:
86 a component for, during an on-going electronic auction session,
87 updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and
88 a component for creating an indication of an updated auction.

89 23. A system for conducting an electronic auction, comprising:
90 a component for, during an on-going electronic auction session,
91 updating the auction with a changed auction parameter; and
92 a component for periodically refreshing an auction web page at a
93 browser of an auction participant.